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December 3d.

The President, DR. HAYS, in the Chair.

Thirty-five members present.

Dr. H. Allen exhibited ten crania from the Morton collection, in which was seen the tertiary occipital condyle. This was situated in each instance upon the anterior border of the foramen magnum, was elevated, and more or less circular. It was thought the "condyle" (i. e. facet) was the result of the odontoid process of the axis extending higher, as well as the basilar process being thicker than usual. These conclusions were born out by the examination of a number of axes, in position, as well as disarticulated. In the former it was seen that the superior fasciculus of the transverse ligament often brought the apex of the process in relation to the occipital bone, even when no facet was formed; in the latter several specimens of the isolated bone had been secured, showing two distinct facets upon the odontoid process—the inferior one for the articulation with the atlas,—the superior for the "tertiary condyle."

The following are the measurements of the most conspicuous facets :

996. The facet is 13 m. wide, 8 long, with irregular but well defined borders; the anterior wall is 4 m. high; asymmetrical,—the greatest portion to the left side of the median line. The right border is furnished with anodule at its posterior part. The superior surface of the basilar process is furnished with a small spicule of bone.

631. Facet 11 m. wide, 7 m. long, slightly depressed, a little fuller upon the right than left side; asymmetrical, the greater portion to the right side of median line. The condyles are large with transverse constriction.

1436. 8 m. wide, 8 long, slightly depressed. The left side has appended to its posterior part a sharply defined horn, which is curved forwards upon itself; asymmetrical—almost entirely to right side of median line. Upon either side of facet and immediately in front of the occipital condyle are placed two rounded nodules, the right of which is the larger. Condyle not constricted.

1460. 13 m. wide, 9 long, sides regular, anterior portion slightly elevated; a large spicula, 5 m. long, extending from superior portion of basilar process downwards; facet placed a little to the right side.

93. 5 m. wide, 3 m. long—not depressed—walls not elevated, yet the whole facet stands slightly above the level of the bone placed in median line. The occipital condyles are of unequal size. The left is 24 m. long and 14 m. wide at largest diameter. The right is 30 m. long, 14 wide at largest diameter, while the anterior portion is much more slender than that of the opposite side, running in advance of the facet; facet in median line.

569. The posterior part of the basi-occipital process 6 m. thick, has towards its inferior surface a small circular depression measuring 5 m. \times 5 m., defined by a sharp edge which is better marked in front than elsewhere. The entire facet is to the left of the median line and entirely free from the posterior border. A smaller depression, having a diameter of $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., is placed upon the right side upon anterior edge of the free basi-occipital border.

December 10th.

The President, DR. HAYS, in the Chair.

Thirty members present.

Prof. E. D. Cope made some remarks on the contents of caves which abound in South-western Virginia. He stated that bones of all the recent mammalia of the country, including those of the Indians, were to be found in them, and 1867.]